Michael O. Leavitt
Governor
Lowell P. Braxton
Division Director

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August 6,1998

Rick Havenstrite Nevada Star Corporation 2213 North Cottontail Cedar City, Utah 84720

Dear Mr. Havenstrite:

Re: <u>Tentative Approval of the Notice of Intention to Commence Large Mining Operations</u>, Nevada Star Corporation, O.K. Copper Mine, M/001/039, Beaver County, Utah

Dear Mr. Havenstrite:

As you know, on March 31, 1997, the Division issued its tentative approval of Centurion Mining Corporation's (Centurion) original Notice of Intention to Commence Large Mining Operations (LMO) for Phase I construction of the O.K. Copper Mine project. The Board of Oil, Gas and Mining conditionally approved of Centurion's proposed form and amount of reclamation surety on May 7, 1997. The Board's Order (dated May 7, 1997) required that the reclamation surety be posted no later than December 31, 1997, for the conditional approval of the large mining notice to remain effective. By letter dated July 15, 1998, the Division rescinded it's tentative approval of Centurion's LMO application due to Centurion's failure to post the required reclamation surety by the December 1997 deadline.

On August 3, 1998, the Division received Nevada Star Corporation's (Nevada Star) letter wherein the corporation agrees to assume Centurion's current LMO application for the O.K. Copper Mine, as it exists in its present status. Since the application has already been processed and Nevada Star is not proposing to alter the existing permit application, we hereby grant our tentative approval of Nevada Star's O.K. Copper Mine Large Mining Notice of Intention. We will proceed to publish a formal tentative approval notice which begins a 30-day public comment period. If no substantive comments are received during the 30-day period, the Division will be grant its final approval of the O.K. Copper Mine permit application.

A new reclamation contract (FORM MR-RC) with accompanying surety in the amount of \$554,400 must be received by the Division before we can issue our final approval allowing

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construction to begin. We have updated the reclamation surety estimate to reflect current year dollars and added the standard 5-year escalation provision (copy attached). Thank you for your cooperation in completing this permitting action. If you have any questions in this regard please contact me, Tony Gallegos, or Tom Munson of the Minerals staff.

Sincerely,

Julion A. Jollege
D. Wayne Hedberg
Permit Supervisor

Minerals Regulatory Program

jb

Attachment: Updated reclamation estimate

c: Craig Davis, Beaver County Zoning Authority

Dennis Frederick, DWQ Mary Ann Wright, DOGM

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SURETY ESTIMATE UPDATE

Nevada Star Corporation

OK Mine - Phase 1 ONLY M/001/039

01/039 Beaver County

Prepared by Utah Division of Oil, Gas & Mining Last Update 08/03/98

DESCRIPTION:

- -Previous reclamation surety estimate was \$550,000 in year 2002 dollars
- -Reclamation Estimate base amount calculated in 1997-\$
- -This update adjusts the surety amount for escalation only.
- -This was originally approved for Centurion Mines Corporation on 4/97
- -This estimate was updated to reflect the new operator Nevada Star Corporation
- -There are no changes to the Phase 1 mining and reclamation plan
- -Escalation factors through 1997 are actual Means Historical Cost Indices
- -Proposed total disturbance for Phases 1-3 of the OK Mine =

275 acres

-Estimated total disturbed area for Phase 1 - OK Mine =

acres

-Total disturbed area to be reclaimed =

128 acres

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CALCULATIONS		ESCAL	BOND	
F = P(1 + I**n	YR	FACTOR	AMOUNT	
F = Future Sum	1996	0.0242	\$0	
P = Present Sum	1997	0.0236	\$485,436	
I = Escalation Factor	1998	0.0224	\$496,310	
n = number of periods	1999	0.0224	\$507,427	
	2000	0.0224	\$518,793	
Three Yr Average = 2.24%	2001	0.0224	\$530,414	
Used to Project 5 Yrs	2002	0.0224	\$542,296	
From the Year 1998	2003	0.0224	\$554,443	
Updated Surety Amount Rounded (2003-\$)			\$554,400	
** Average cost per acre =	\$4,331	(\$/ACRE)		
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